



PALOLO NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 6

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 400 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813
PHONE (808) 527-5749 • FAX (808) 527-5760 • INTERNET: <http://www.honolulu.gov>

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 2006 PALOLO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAFETERIA

CALL TO ORDER: Acting Chair Rachel Shackelford called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m., a quorum was present with seven (7) members.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Darlene Nakayama, Rachel Shackelford, Joshua Stanbro, Earl Shiraki, Erin Sonsona, Gregory Pentecost, Doug Wong, Gladys Hayes-Gerlich.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Traver Carroll, Carolyn Walther, Owen Nakao, Michael Weinstein.

GUESTS: Dave Gonzales (Videographer), Carol Lam, Karen Shimizu (Servco Hawaii), Sharon Agnew (Governor's Representative), James Nekota, Stephanie Kimura (Board of Water Supply, Martin Okabe (Mayor's Representative), Yoshi Kanekuni, Senator Les Ihara, Capt. Bernard Paloma and Fire Fighter Kevin Won (Honolulu Fire Department – Palolo Station); Capt. Robert Green, Lt. Gerrit Kurihara, Sgt. Glenn Maekawa, Officer August Bolden, Officer Cynthia Hytree, Det. Tim Walsh (Honolulu Police Department); Miles Silberstein, Lillian Chou (Bahai Faith), Ed Jose, Gary Hu, Kelley Maniti (Pacific Village), Representative Calvin Say, Gary Takeuchi (Toyota), Natalie (Rocky Mountain Institute), Marie Richardson (Neighborhood Commission Office staff), and another 4 to 6 individuals not signed in.

BOARD VACANCIES: Chair Shackelford announced the following vacancies: one (1) seat each in Sub district 2 and 3. There was no interest.

CITY SERVICES:

Honolulu Police Department (HPD) – Officer Bolden:

- Reported the statistics in Beats 762, 763, 764, and 765 for February compared to March totaled: 24 burglaries, 17 thefts, and 7 UEMV's (unauthorized entry to motor vehicle).
- Announced this month's message: "Put Opala in its Place" – a handout included in the District 7 report highlights taking care of garbage and how to recycle and properly dispose of common items.
- Capt. Green, Lt. Kurihara and Det. Walsh were introduced.

Det. Tim Walsh, is working with the Criminal Investigative Division and will be working in the Palolo area. Contact him at 733-8735 with concerns regarding criminal property damages.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Capt. Green responded to Nekota's inquiry regarding the graffiti problems, that each Police District has a Graffiti Task Force. Report graffiti tags to HPD. Some communities have "paint out" project efforts. HPD hopes for a more positive result next month.
2. Hayes reported a homeless person wondering around 7th Avenue and Keanu Street; but the nuisance is that now she is missing two bags of cans that were collected for recycling.
3. Stanbro said his motorcycle was stolen on January 31 and an eyewitness saw the person who took it. Stanbro has yet to hear any word on the case or has yet to receive any contact from Det. Valdez. He would



PALOLO NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 6
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 2006
PAGE 2

like to know if there are any actions taking place or if the case has been abandoned. According to Lt. Kurihara, the case is being handled by the Auto Theft Detail at 529-3115 (Criminal Investigation Division). Stanbro can contact Lt. Kurihara if he doesn't get any response. .

4. Pentecost inquired about the racing accident two weeks ago and asked about the possibility of getting speed bumps or a similar measure to deter speeding (Waiomao Street and 10th Avenue). The statement was referred to Lt. Maekawa, who indicated that officers are monitoring 10th Avenue and Pakui Street. Apparently, the young female suspect stole her parents' vehicle about 10:30 a.m.

Sonsona arrived (7:15 p.m.) during the above portion of the meeting. (8 members present.)

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) – Fire Fighter Kevin Won reported:

- Reported 1 structure and 2 rubbish fires; 25 medical and 4 miscellaneous emergencies.
- Fire Safety Tip: Cooking fires are the leading cause of home fires and the second major cause of death among older adults. If you are cooking and must leave the kitchen, even for only a few minutes, turn off the stove. Keep a fire extinguisher (with minimum rating of 2A10BC) in or near your kitchen and learn how to use it. Inspect the fire extinguisher regularly to ensure that it has not expired.

Board of Water Supply (BWS) – Stephanie Kimura:

- Reported one main break on March 27 at 2331 Kuahea Street; an 8-inch cast iron main, 55 years old.
- General Announcements: With the recent heavy rains, some may have questions about how or if they have affected our water supply. a) As of March 8, BWS was pumping 127.28 mgd (million gallons daily); down from last year's 146.43 mgd. b) This does not indicate that there is more water in the aquifer, only that BWS is pumping less water from them. Usually, when the rain ends, the aquifer levels will go back to regular levels as pumpage rises to accommodate the people resuming the activities they put off while inclement weather was occurring. c) During heavy rains, there is always considerable runoff that occurs. Despite the runoff, rainy weather helps maximize the amount of rainfall available for aquifer recharge. d) Winter and spring rains help to balance out the dry months we expect in the summer. e) We should continue to be mindful of water use even during periods like these as the effects from them will not be immediately evident.
- Conservation Tip: The height at which you mow your lawn can have a direct effect on how much and how often you water it. Make sure you know what the correct height is for the type of grass you have on your lawn. Leaving grass cuttings on your lawn can help soil retain moisture naturally.

Questions and comments followed:

1. Shackelford said someone mentioned to her that some homeowners have contractors take the gutters and pipe it directly into the sewage system and asked if that's true. She was curious that when it rains so hard, how does the water get into the sewage system; is there is a leak? Kimura don't have that answer. Shackelford was hoping to ask the Mayor's representative, but he's not here yet.
2. A concern related to a second main break this past Monday, and the concern is whether the pipes would begin to break down in that area. It seems that each time they come into that area and fix something, water service is interrupted; and the last time was for a day a half. Kimura said the average age of the water mains are 50 years, but BWS is in the process of upgrading the system. Pentecost inquired about the service life of the main and not the average age of the main. Pentecost inquired about the service life of the main and not the average age of the main.
3. Representative Say mentioned there is a big hole underground where the water is flowing under the road at Kuhea Place is in bad shape and needs major repair; Waiomao is affected as well. Kimura noted BWS is aware and is trying to work on it, but there is much impact with the heavy rains.

PALOLO NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 6
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 2006
PAGE 3

4. Kimura indicated that the problem is money and because BWS has not raised their rates in 10 years.
5. Nekota would like someone from the sewer department to come and explain. Shackelford encouraged filling out the Mayor's concern form and submitting it to NA Richardson.

City Parks and Recreation (DPR) – No representative was present.

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Mayor's Report – Martin Okabe reported:

- At the last meeting the Board asked Okabe to dialogue with Lynn Ellen Hollinger regarding the Bahai Church trash dumping situation. In their discussion Okabe gave Hollinger contact information with the Department of Environmental Services (ENV) to assist in servicing. The Environmental Service Department will continue dialogue to address the concerns at hand.
- The break that occurred in the Waikiki area at the beach walk sewer pump station warranted the diversion of the sewage overflow into the Ala Wai Canal. Okabe would have been able to show everyone with his power point presentation, where and how the break occurred; at a future meeting.

Questions and comments followed:

1. Shackelford asked about rain gutters being attached to the sewer lines. According to Okabe, it is a serious violation of the "clean water act" to tap your rain gutters to the sewer lines. Pentecost shared the same concerns.
2. There were a number of concerns regarding the sewage overflow into the Ala Wai Canal. Wong requested a presentation at the next meeting regarding the particulars that lead up to the decision of the sewer discharge into the Ala Wai Canal. Okabe briefly talked about some of the possibilities that lead to the failure of the already over burdened sewage system. This matter will be on the next meeting agenda.
3. Nakayama thanked Iwalani Sato of the Department of Environmental Services and all the volunteers for the successful stream cleanup. Okabe commended Sato and the community for the success.
4. Shiraki asked again about the delayed left turn traffic signal from 10th onto Waialae Avenue. Okabe indicated it is being addressed and on the list of projects for a latter time. Chair Shackelford briefly noted that this matter was previously addressed and programmed for the Fiscal Year 2009 budget.
5. In response to Sonsona, it has been Okabe's experience that when contamination is coming from a stream, it usually occurs from further upstream, such as fertilizers from farmlands, etc. He also explained that when it rains heavy there is some infiltration at joints, especially if it's old. Unfortunately, the sewer system in the County of Honolulu, over the last 10 – 15 years, has not been maintained; therefore leading to the failure of the system. Also, monies allocated for program improvements were taken away and used for other things. Acting Chair Shackelford would like to agendasize this matter for the next meeting.

Councilmember Ann Kobayashi – No representative was present, however, her report was available.

Representative Calvin Say – Representative Say distributed his report and reported:

- The housing conversion of the federal project is being addressed. The House passed a grant for the Mutual Housing Assistance program for a long term lease.
- Two thirds through the Legislative session and basically, the legislature is addressing education, housing, energy and the environment.

Questions and comments followed:

1. Silberstein is concerned with all the vacant lots being condemned all over, he wondered that with all today's technology and engineering capabilities, why can't those vacant lots be put on the market for housing. He

PALOLO NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 6
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 2006
PAGE 4

felt that it is a shame that with the lack of land, these vacant lots are just sitting there growing weeds. Representative agreed, a point well taken; and an issue not addressed by the State or the County.

2. Shackelford asked since Kuahea Street will be fixed is Waiomao going to be fixed as well. However, Representative Say could not speak for the County. The concern with the land shifting regarded some liability issues.
3. Other issues brought up regarded no drainage and water under the street runoffs. Representative Say's office received 12 calls from the St. Louis and Maunalani Heights area, etc.

Senator Les Ihara – Present earlier but left the meeting.

Governor's Report – Sharon Agnew distributed the Governor's Update and an informational handout on West Nile virus; and reported:

- The Office of Youth Services (OYS) has a program and is interested in identifying graffiti that has been showing up in the area and encouraged reporting the matter to the police. OYS will assistance in getting paint supplies needed to help cover the graffiti.
- The Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility and the rate of arrests and juvenile problems in the Palolo area are extremely low, and the community should be commended. The OYS program special staff came to the Palolo community to observe the programs in this area.

Nakayama said that residents want to be assured that the reservoir/dam in Palolo Valley has been looked at; so not to have a repeat of what happened in Kauai. Agnew will follow up.

NEW BUSINESS/PRESENTATIONS:

Recommendation for Granting of a Liquor License to Pacific Village Market 1829 Palolo Avenue (for action)

– Kelley Maniti, in partnership with Mr. Han, announced a public hearing for a liquor license application for Pacific Village Market, located at 1829 Palolo Avenue, The application is for retail sales of liquor (imports from the South Pacific); hours of operation are from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. on the premises. The hearing is set for Thursday, May 4, 2006, 4:00 p.m. at 711 Kapiolani Boulevard, 6th floor. Any concerns or comments will be heard at this hearing. No action was taken at this time.

Summer Recess 2006 (for action) – Acting Chair Shackelford noted that the Board usually recess in the months of June and January. Hayes proposed recessing in May rather than June because a couple board members would be absent in June. **Hayes moved, Stanbro seconded the motion to recess in May.** Discussion followed: Initially, there was some hesitation in recessing in May, due to the possibility of other Board members being absent in June. **The first vote failed, 6-0-2, due to the 7 votes required to pass the motion; however, a second vote was taken and the motion carried, 7-0-1. Aye:** Nakayama, Shackelford, Stanbro, Sonsona, Pentecost, Hayes-Gerlich, Weinstein, Wong. **Abstain:** Shiraki.

Resolution to Call Upon Legislators regarding the Agricultural Land Use in Hawaii (for action) – Shackelford highlighted that the resolution regarding the Agricultural Land Use in Hawaii is no longer active and will not be addressed tonight. Stanbro thanked the Board for addressing the agricultural land issue, and thanks to Senators Hoosier, Fukunaga and English who helped stop what could have been a bad bill for Hawaii.

OLD/OTHER BUSINESS:

Residents' concern of the conversion of the Toyota Dealership on Waialae Avenue into a Vehicle Service Center – This matter has been discussed for the last couple months and Acting Chair Shackelford asked if there were any new information to add.

Boardmember Wong indicated that Toyota has supplied the papers requested, which he delivered to Simmy McMichael. Wong noted that McMichael's position remains opposed to the project, and he expressed that she was not very pleased with the results. Wong wants to continue to help mediate the situation and encouraged McMichael's to talk with Toyota's environmental consultant (Environnet, Inc.).

PALOLO NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 6
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 2006
PAGE 5

Carol Lam with Toyota asked Gary Hu of the Operations Division to give an update. Hu thanked Wong for his assistance to address some of the issues at hand. Hu noted the meeting was open and friendly, and that some of the concerns were of past practices or things that might have happened over a long period of time. A lot of consideration was taken into account when redesigning the facility to be more-friendly toward the neighbors. Toyota has tried to be very open in discussion about the materials being used, however, felt that McMichaels could not be convinced that the materials being used are not true hazardous types. She will continue to have her views, which Toyota respects that, but Toyota is very open to the community.

Comments followed: 1) Chair Shackelford was curious whether other neighbors expressed any concerns. Hu said Toyota's concern is about being a good neighbor. There's been no objection at this point, with the exception of McMichaels; and in fact, received a lot of support for the project. 2) Other comments: a) related to traffic, which was explained to be serviced by appointments. b) As compared to before, there will be less employees parking on the street. c) As part of the permitting process, there are specific standards that Toyota has to include in the design such as oil / water separators, etc.; and if there are any problems contact Toyota. 3) Wong said that McMichaels will be meeting with the environmental consultant. If she is still not satisfied, she is going to write a statement of what actions she would like done.

More comments: 1) For the record, Shackelford shared her personal opinion, that if the Board is going to consider any action or recommendation, that the Board try and poll the rest of the neighbors because she didn't think it would be fair to act on behalf of the community when it is just one person opposing the project. Wong felt the point was valid, but who is going to do the polling. He also pointed out that the Board quite frequently, acts on behalf of one citizen; and it's not that he don't see both sides. 2) Silberstein commented that it didn't seem that the concern impacts the community as a whole, but rather only an impact on McMichaels, as a neighbor. He felt unless it related to a drug house which would certainly impact or involve others in the community, he didn't think the Board should be spending four meetings discussing the issue; but agrees that Wong could continue to assist her. 3) Wong would be satisfied with one minute at each meeting for an update. Chair Shackelford felt its fair as long as it is limited only to that because it seems each time the same questions are asked over again. 4) A traffic draft survey was requested by the Department of Transportation Services; once DTS reviews the traffic survey, Toyota will finalize the draft letter. Takeuchi emphasized that this is only a survey and not a report. 5) Wong was thanked for his time and efforts.

Update on Drug Issue with Kipona Street Residence - Gladys Hayes highlighted one arrest made. It seems that the younger individuals in the home are influenced by other older friends, but HPD is on top of it.

Baha'i Center's Citation for Trash Dumped – Discussed earlier under the Mayor's report.

9th Avenue Variance – Deferred.

RESIDENTS' ISSUES AND CONCERNS:

Renewable Energy - Stanbro asked that another important issue be heard regarding a comprehensive clean energy reform. He introduced Natalie M from the Rocky Mountain Institute, who gave a brief summary on what is needed to move renewable energy forward; and talked about what the Legislature is doing to secure Hawaii's energy future. Hawaii has the highest oil cost in the nation; energy prices have doubled since 2001; the rising oil cost has cost the State more than \$1.1 billion in 2005 than in 2002. So there is a need to come up with a comprehensive strategy to diversify our fuel supply; and four bills alive in the Legislation.

Questions and comments followed:

1. Hayes asked for clarification of the LEED Silver standard. A standard for new buildings designed to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is not actually required to be LEED, but it is one of the nationally recognized designed programs.
2. Pentecost would really like to support it but would need a better understanding. He requested seeing a presentation at a future meeting for better understanding. He also suggested at a future meeting, a report back about what the Legislature actually did.

PALOLO NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 6
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 2006
PAGE 6

3. Stanbro was primarily concerned about was the “energy cost adjustment” charge on the HECO bill. He explained that if oil prices are raised the energy company doesn’t have any incentive whatsoever to burn less oil; they pass on 100% of the oil barrel price straight to the consumer. He wanted Natalie to lay out some things for everyone to think about and to ask elected officials to think about the incentives that we have and with oils prices going up and continuing to go up; a) should we be moving to something else; and b) should we be paying it.
4. Sonsona felt that education is a must, a comparison of what is being targeted (such as ethanol, etc.) and a little pressure on the State might be more effective.
5. Wong asked to hear from the State representative on the practicality on the resolutions and whether they are feasible or not. Representative Say felt the resolution is feasible, but personally would not prefer fossil fuels but alternatives.
6. Shiraki asked what is the main solution; Representative Say said the main solution is having the courage to make a decision and say “yes”, to have wind farms at the Waianae Coast area; “yes” to have a hydro where there is a source of water supply, etc. for the greater good of the community and where the move is from fossil fuel to non fossil fuel. It is tough and this is the debate happening with the Legislature.
7. Shackelford made a quick comment relating to bio fuels. Representative Say agreed, Pacific Bio Diesel is a good example. In the interest of time, Hayes suggested reporting back at the end of the Legislative session on what has been accomplished, etc.

FUTURE PRESENTATIONS: Chair Shackelford announced future Board presentations: 1) Pedestrian and vehicular law changes (HPD); 2) renovation of Palolo Housing, Federal side (Dahlia Asuega); and 3) Update on the Dae Won Sa Temple

CHAIR'S REPORT, MAIL & ANNOUNCEMENTS: Chair Shackelford made following announcements:

Olelo Broadcast Slots: Aired on Channel 54 on the first and third Thursday of every month at 9p.m. For schedule and information, call 834-0007, ext. 133.

Bulky Trash Pick-Up: Take out by the morning of April 19, 2006 (third Wednesday of every month).

Other announcements:

- From the State Health Planning and Development Agency – a new Certificate of Need application for the administrative review of Palolo Chinese Home for the conversion of 15 intermediate care facility and skilled nursing facility beds at no capital costs. A public review meeting is held only by request only; submit your request in writing to Dr. David Sakamoto, Administrator, State Health Planning and Development Agency at 1177 Alakea Street, Room 402, Honolulu HI 96813.
- From the Department of Planning and Permitting – acceptance of a zoning variance request application to allow the reconstruction of three non-conforming single family dwellings at 1526 Palolo Avenue); which exceeds the maximum number on a single zoning lot. If you wish to review the application, you may visit the office during regular business hours; or contact the staff at 523-4807.

APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 8, 2006: Hayes moved, Stanbro seconded to approved the Regular Meeting Minutes of March 8, 2006, as circulated. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

TREASURER'S REPORT OF MARCH 2006: Hayes reported: 1) Operating Account incurred expenses totaling \$40.22, leaving the account balance to-date of \$838.16. 2) Publicity Account reflected no activity, leaving the balance to-date at \$482.00. 3) Refreshment Account reflected no activity, leaving the balance to-date at \$120.00.

**PALOLO NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 6
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 2006
PAGE 7**

Stanbro moved, Pentecost seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report of March 2006, subject to audit. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

ADJOURNMENT: Without any objections, the meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Submitted by

Marie Richardson
Neighborhood Assistant